

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 01653 142244Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 /049 W
-----021875 151155Z /21
R 142145Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0802
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 1653

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CS
SUBJECT: DECLARATIONS OF FSLN LEADER PLUTARCO HERNANDEZ

1. NICARAGUAN PLUTARCO HERNANDEZ, 34, DESCRIBED AS MEMBER OF HIGH COMMAND OF FSLN, WAS CAPTURED IN WORKING CLASS DISTRICT OF SAN JOSE 11 APRIL. HERNANDEZ HAD BEEN A FUGITIVE HERE SINCE 1971 WHEN HE APARENTLY WAS RELEASED FROM JAIL IN CONNECTION WITH A SKYJACKING. ACCORDINGLY, HE HAS BEEN RETURNED TO PENITENTIARY TO COMPLET SENTENCE. IN EXTENSIVE DECLARATIONS TO PRESS, RADIO, TV REPORTERS IN CENTRAL PENITENTIARY 13 APRIL, HERNANDEZ STATED:
--THAT COSTA RICA HAS BECOME ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL FSLN CENTERS FOR REFUGE AND MILITARY TRAINING. "FOR GEOGRAPHIC REASONS COSTA RICA IS A BULWARK FOR US, INASMUCH AS IT IS POSSIBLE TO TRAIN PEOPLE HERE".
--THAT "WE HAVE NO GUARANTEES HERE, BUT IF WE HAD THEM WE COULD TRAIN WITH THE THIRD COMPANY (OF THE CIVIL GUARD) . . . WE DO NOT THINK THIS WOULD ENDANGER THE INSTITUTIONAL LIFE OF COSTA RICA . . . WE ARE NOT CARRYING OUT SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES AGAINST COSTA RICA." HE ADDED THAT SINCE 1969 THE FSLN HAS PROHIBITED THE EXECUTION OF ARMED ACTIONS IN COSTA RICAN TERRITORY.
--THAT HE IS A POLITICAL PRISONER IN COSTA RICA.
ACCORDING TO LA NACION ACCOUNT, HERNANDEZ SAID HE HOPED
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THAT THE FRONT WOULD DO NOTHING TO PRECIPITATE ACTION IN HIS FAVOR, AND THAT "HE EXPECTS TO DEPART JAIL PEACEFULLY". ON TV, HOWEVER, HERNANDEZ STATED THAT FSLN ALREADY WAS PLANNING AN OPERATION TO FREE HIM FROM JAIL.
--THAT SOME 50 NICARAGUANS WERE INVOLVED IN BOTH MILITARY AND POLITICAL TRAINING AT THE SUBURBAN SAN JOSE PLACE WHERE HERNANDEZ WAS CAPTURED. HE ADMITTED THAT THIS

WAS ILLEGAL IN COSTA RICA.

--THAT HE WAS IN COMMAND OF THE SAN CARLOS ATTACK IN OCTOBER 1977, AND THAT HE PARTICIPATED IN THE PLANNING AND IN THE TRAINING FOR THE FSLN DECEMBER 1974 ATTACK IN MANAGUA.

2. SO FAR, GOCR HAS NOT RESPONDED TO HERNANDEZ DECLARATIONS.

3. CLIPS OF INTERVIEW BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY MANAGUA.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, TERRORISTS, ARRESTS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANJO01653
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780162-0668
Format: TEL
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780454/aaaabtwz.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 409801b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2961850
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DECLARATIONS OF FSLN LEADER PLUTARCO HERNANDEZ
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PINS, CS, NU, FSLN, (HERNANDEZ, PLUTARCO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/409801b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014